



SOUTH FLORIDA FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Jaqueline H. Arroyo

FEB Executive Director

November 1, 2007

Linda Springer, Director

Office of Personnel Management

1900 E Street, N.W., Room 5500

Washington, D.C. 20415

Dear Director Springer:

On behalf of the South Florida Federal Executive Board (SFFEB) I am pleased to forward the FY 2007 FEB Annual Report. The South Florida FEB represents a diverse workforce of approximately 35,000 federal civilian and military employees working in 26 different departments and independent agencies (including the Post Office) from West Palm Beach south to Key West.

Looking back over the last fiscal year, the SFFEB made great strides in fulfilling its mandate to better prepare our federal community for emergency events, to provide FEB member agencies with human capital information to address workforce issues, and to build the networks and partnerships necessary to make improvements in all areas of government operations. Of course, we could not have achieved these successes without the commitment and continued financial support from our funding agency, the Department of Commerce, and many of our member agencies. Below are just a few highlights of the notable accomplishments achieved during FY 2007.

- The FEB in partnership with FEMA sponsored an interagency pandemic influenza tabletop exercise. Assisting with the tabletop were representatives from OPM, Atlanta Office; the Center for Disease Control; and the Florida State Emergency Management Office. Twenty-five different agencies, Senator Bill Nelson's office, and over 85 federal employees were in attendance. The exercise tested individual agency's pandemic plans.
- Due to the recent shift in power in Cuba and the perpetual rumors that Fidel Castro has died, the FEB held several presentations on the issue of Mass Migration. A challenge for South Florida federal agencies is defining the likely impact on their agencies' ability to continue operations in the event of a mass migration from Cuba. Thus, DHS gave two presentations to our members that discussed the U.S. contingency plans and the results of a broad DHS led exercise on how federal, state, and local agencies would respond to a mass exodus from the communist island to South Florida.

It is only through a team effort with each of us pitching in, that we can keep this network active to achieve success.

- With the graying of the federal workforce, our future success is dependent on the recruitment and retention of new and younger talent. In addition, in South Florida we must recognize that the high cost of living is having a tremendous impact on our ability to recruit from outside the area and retain employees. Thus, the FEB partnered with Miami-Dade County Public School System to begin cultivating homegrown talent. FEB is collaborating with the Public School System to provide internship opportunities for hundreds of Miami-Dade High School students. In addition, our federal community will help direct the content of student's course curriculum. Federal officials with expertise in various areas will sit on "academic boards" tasked with developing curriculum for various career pathway/academies for students within grades 10 thru 12. For example, one academy may focus on engineering, so a federal official with this expertise will sit on an engineering academy board with private industry experts and academicians to develop a curriculum that reflects employers' current needs for the workforce.
- In FY2007, South Florida's mediation program, Shared Neutrals ADR Program (SNAP) conducted more than 112 mediations that resulted in a cost avoidance of more than \$2 million in litigation expense.
- The FEB administered two Combine Federal Campaigns that covered our four county areas. In FY2007, the CFC raised more than \$2.2 million for local and national charities. Campaign contributions reflect the generosity of our federal employees and ensure that those in need within the community are provided for.

On the following pages you will find these and many other accomplishments achieved in fiscal year 2007. The information is organized according to the three FEB goals, as requested. Specifically, the information is provided under the goals of emergency preparedness, security, and employee safety; human capital readiness; and intergovernmental and community activities.

I am confident that in FY2008 the Board will build on the programs already in place, strengthen our membership and involvement, and bring new and innovative ideas to the FEB. If you have any questions about this report please contact me at (954) 792-1109.

Sincerely,

Jaqueline H. Arroyo
Executive Director

Attachment